

SECRET

2/81

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WASHINGTON ONLY

ARAB STATE

Activities of the Marti of Jerusalem

Our 2/81 of August 10th referred to a project of Haj-Amin-al-Husseini to set up an Arab Peoples' League in opposition to the Arab League. The attached report which comes from the same well-placed informant, and is dated December 27th, lists the political groups in Middle East countries which have promised support for a meeting to discuss the Marti's plan, which, in other respects, does not appear to have made any important progress.

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MIDDLE EAST

POLITICAL

THE EX-MUFTI OF JERUSALEM'S PROPOSED "ARAB
PEOPLE'S LEAGUE".

A well-placed source has reported as follows:-

1. ~~At last summer~~ ^{04/11/77} Haj Amin al-Husseini, ex-Mufti of JERUSALEM, circulated to a number of Middle East political parties and organizations a proposal for the formation of an "Arab People's League" in opposition to the Arab League. The following groups have agreed in principle to the convocation of a conference to discuss this project:-

IRAQ:

Hish al-Istiqlal

Hish al-Watani al-Democrati (National Democrat Party.)

SYRIA:

Jibha al-Islamia al-Istirakiat (Moslem Socialist Front, including the Moslem Brotherhood).

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EGYPT:

Ittihad al-Arabi (Arab Union Party).

Maar al-Fattat (Young Egypt Party).

Ikhwān al-Muṣlīmīn (Moslem Brotherhood).

TUNISIA:

Hisb al-Hizr al-Desturi (Free Constitutional Party).

MIDDLE EAST:

Hisb al-Qawmi al-Arabi (Arab Nationalist Party).

2. *to bring to note*
The ex-Mufti originally proposed to hold the conference in DAMASCUS, but this idea has now been shelved, as Hajj-AMIN is loath to leave EGYPT lest the Egyptian authorities, with whom he is on bad terms, refuse to grant him a re-entry visa.

3. No decisions on the date or place of the proposed conference have so far been taken *made*.